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CLAIMS

We claim:

Sub A3
1. A system for serving graphics for display at a browser,
comprising:

3 a graphics server;

4 a database;

5 a cache;

6 said server being operable for storing graphics and
7 text received from a first browser as an image in said
8 cache and said parameters for said image in said
9 database; and

10 said server being further operable responsive to a
11 request from a requesting browser for selectively
12 serving to said requesting browser for display said
13 image from said cache and, if not found in said cache,
14 for generating anew said image from said parameters
15 stored in said database.

1 2. The system of claim 1, said graphics server being
2 operable for storing in said database, and making available
3 to any of a plurality of browsers, parameters for
4 reconstituting a plurality of screen display images.

1 3. A screen display for publishing a document within
2 collaboration space, comprising:

3 a work area;

4 a side bar;

5 said side bar including a layout button;

6 said work area, responsive to selection of said layout
7 button, being operable for receiving a title for
8 display in said side bar as a graphic, and for
9 receiving text and graphics for display in said work
10 area.

1 4. A system for publishing a document within collaboration

21 parameters and displaying said image in said work area
22 in edit mode; and

23 said graphics server being operable in response to user
24 selection of said publish button for serving said
25 document to said work area in published mode.

Sub A4
1 5. A method for serving an image to a browser screen,
2 comprising the steps of:

3 maintaining a cache of cached images;

4 maintaining a data base of default parameters;

5 receiving a graphic request locator;

6 hashing said graphic request locator to form a string
7 number;

8 examining cache for a cached image with a matching
9 string number, and if found, serving said cached image
10 to said browser screen; and, if not found, parsing said
11 graphic request locator for graphic parameters and
12 constructing from said graphic parameters and

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selectively from said default parameters a
reconstructed image for serving to said browser.

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1 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of
2 maintaining a database of graphic parameters, and responsive
3 to receiving a graphic request locator which does not hash
4 to a string number found in said cache, parsing said graphic
5 request locator for the location in said database of graphic
6 parameters for said graphic parameters for reconstructing
7 said image for serving to said browser.

1 7. The method of claim 5, said step for constructing a
2 reconstructed image further comprising the steps of:

3 constructing a background object;

4 constructing a font object;

5 constructing text graphics;

6 applying graphic effects from said database; and

7 combining said background object, said font object,

8 said text graphics, and said graphic effects to form
9 said image.

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1 8. The method of claim 7, said graphic effects selectively
2 including blurring, shadowing, animation and
3 transparency effects.

1 9. The method of claim 8, said animation effects
2 selectively including fade in, fade out, fade in/out,
3 undulation, and slide.

1 10. The method of claim 9, said slide effects selectively
2 including in, out, loop, up, and down.

Sub A5
1 11. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for serving an image to a
4 browser screen, said method steps comprising:

5 maintaining a cache of cached images;

6 maintaining a data base of default parameters;
7 receiving a graphic request locator;
8 hashing said graphic request locator to form a string
9 number;
10 examining cache for a cached image with a matching
11 string number, and if found, serving said cached image
12 to said browser screen; and, if not found, parsing said
13 graphic request locator for graphic parameters and
14 constructing from said graphic parameters and
15 selectively from said default parameters a
16 reconstructed image for serving to said browser.

1 12. An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a computer useable medium having computer readable
3 program code means embodied therein for serving an
4 image to a browser screen, the computer readable
5 program means in said article of manufacture
6 comprising:

7 computer readable program code means for causing a

8 computer to effect maintaining a cache of cached
9 images;

10 computer readable program code means for causing a
11 computer to effect maintaining a data base of default
12 parameters;

13 computer readable program code means for causing a
14 computer to effect receiving a graphic request locator;

15 computer readable program code means for causing a
16 computer to effect hashing said graphic request locator
17 to form a string number;

18 computer readable program code means for causing a
19 computer to effect examining cache for a cached image
20 with a matching string number, and if found, serving
21 said cached image to said browser screen; and, if not
22 found, parsing said graphic request locator for graphic
23 parameters and constructing from said graphic
24 parameters and selectively from said default parameters
25 a reconstructed image for serving to said browser.

1 13. A computer program product or computer program element

2 for serving an image to a browser screen according to the
3 steps of:

4 maintaining a cache of cached images;

AS 5 maintaining a data base of default parameters;

6 receiving a graphic request locator;

7 hashing said graphic request locator to form a string
8 number;

9 examining cache for a cached image with a matching
10 string number, and if found, serving said cached image
11 to said browser screen; and, if not found, parsing said
12 graphic request locator for graphic parameters and
13 constructing from said graphic parameters and
14 selectively from said default parameters a
15 reconstructed image for serving to said browser.